



Message from the Director

This is a marathon. For more than three months, river communities in 34 Illinois counties along the Illinois and Mississippi rivers have fought raging floodwaters. Residents have experienced shock, disbelief, heartache and despair as fluctuating river levels have destroyed homes and shuttered businesses.

As we wait for the water to recede, we remain focused on the critical life-safety issues. We are thankful there have been no lives lost during this extended event. Flooding is one of the leading causes of weather-related fatalities, most of which result from people in vehicles attempting to drive across flooded roads. "Turn Around, Don't Drown" is much more than a mere catchphrase – it's an action that could save your life and those of the ones you love.

There has been a tremendous outpouring of support from people and volunteer organizations who rushed to offer assistance, from filling and placing sandbags, to providing meals and respite for volunteers and residents. Even in the darkest hours, the kindness of others giving of their time, energy and donations provides the glimmer of hope many people affected by the floods needed to keep moving forward.

Recovery from this flooding will take weeks, months, even a year or longer, depending on the extent of damage. Long after our emergency operations centers have shut down, response equipment has been returned and streets have reopened, those affected by flooding still will be putting their lives back together.

IEMA remains committed to keeping the residents in our state safe and helping them rebuild. One of the ways we do that is by establishing Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC). A MARC is a one-stop-shop for flood victims to access disaster related relief services and information. The MARC brings together representatives from local and state agencies and essential support organizations. Upon arrival at a MARC, residents are paired with a Service Ambassador who can help the residents navigate the facility and ensure their needs are addressed.

Remember, this flood fight is a marathon, not a sprint. The state will do everything it can to help affected communities, today, tomorrow and beyond.



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2019 Illinois Flood Fight

Governor JB Pritzker joined officials with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), Illinois National Guard and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to tour flooding along the Illinois River. Many parts of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers remain in major flood stage, and revised crest projections indicate river levels will remain at critically high levels for nearly a week in some places. Emergency Management officials are advising residents in river communities to have a family evacuation-plan in place, in the event you are asked to evacuate due to rising floodwaters.

Governor JB Pritzker and IEMA Deputy Director Scott Swinford review the flight plan for the May 3rd flood tour along the Illinois River.

“Heavy rains and flooding continue to threaten communities across our state and I urge all residents to be prepared,” said Governor JB Pritzker. “The state is doing everything we can to provide resources to impacted communities, and we continue to urge Illinoisans to help by listening to authorities, checking on your neighbors, and being prepared to evacuate if necessary. I will continue to closely monitor this situation and we will do everything we can to keep people safe and to help communities rebuild.”

The forecasted river levels along the Illinois River are alarming for many reasons, and the forecast should serve as a warning to residents. The time to prepare for a potential evacuation is now.



Governor JB Pritzker and IEMA Deputy Director Scott Swinford review the flight plan for the May 3rd flood tour along the Illinois River.

“If it is likely your home could flood: Don't Wait, Evacuate,” said Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “Flooding has been a factor in 49 deaths across Illinois since 1995. That is more than the number of people killed by tornadoes during the same period. Do not let your guard down when it comes to flooding. Please, prepare your families today.”

Emergency management officials are urging residents to be aware of the flood risks in their neighborhood and know the steps to take to keep their family safe in the event of an emergency.

Have more than one way to receive important weather information. Because disasters can occur while you are at home, at school, at work or on vacation, make sure your mobile phone can receive emergency alerts. Monitor television, radio and internet for updates, and where possible, sign up for your community's emergency alert system.

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Be ready to evacuate. Have an emergency go bag packed for a quick evacuation. When you want to pack for all members of your family, including your pets. Don't forget your medications, glasses, cellphones and chargers.

Follow instructions of local authorities. If told to evacuate, do so immediately. If you do not have friends or family to assist you with an evacuation, listen to your radio or TV for information on provisions being made to assist those who need housing assistance.

Because families may not be together when an evacuation order comes in, have a family communications plan to ensure everyone has the essential information and knows where to meet up post-evacuation.

Check on your neighbors. During a disaster, 46% of individuals expect to rely on the people in their neighborhood for help within the first 72 hours after a disaster or emergency.

Don't forget: Turn around, Don't Drown. Flooding has been a factor in 49 deaths across Illinois since 1995. This is more than the number of people killed by tornadoes during the same period. Three out of four flood fatalities involve people in vehicles trying to cross flooded roads.

In an effort to encourage everyone in Illinois is prepared for emergencies, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's public preparedness website,

Ready Illinois, is available in multiple languages, including Spanish, French, German, Filipino and more. To learn more about emergency preparedness for all hazards, man-made or natural, visit www.ready.illinois.gov.



Illinois River in Meredosia – May 3, 2019



Morgan County EMA Director Phil McCarty reviews current flight fight operations in Meredosia with Governor JB Pritzker, Deputy Director Scott Swinford, Regional Coordinator Bob Flemming and State Senator Steve McClure.



Governor JB Pritzker address the media, encourages residents to remain aware of flood risks in their community.

State Receives SBA Disaster Declaration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) approved the state's request for assistance to help people and businesses in northern Illinois recover from devastating flooding. The declaration stems from March 2019 flooding along the Rock and Pecatonica rivers. The approved SBA disaster declaration makes low-interest loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses in Stephenson County, as well as the contiguous counties of Winnebago, Jo Daviess, Carroll and Ogle in Illinois and (2) counties in Wisconsin.

SBA loans can help repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters can apply for loans to repair or replace damaged or

destroyed personal property. Businesses and private non-profit organizations can apply for loans to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is July 8, 2019. The deadline to return economic injury applications is February 7, 2020. Any individual or business needing additional information, or wishing to apply for a loan, should contact the SBA Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955.

Property Damage Deadline

July						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Monday, July 8th 2019

Economic Injury Deadline

February						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Friday, February 7th 2020

NRC Presents Boiling Water Reactor Training

Two dozen IEMA Division of Nuclear Safety staff members recently received training from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on boiling water reactors.

A trainer from the NRC's headquarters presented the five-day training to the agency's Radiological Emergency Assessment Center (REAC) managers, reactor specialists, health physicists, radiochemists, county liaisons, and radiological response personnel. The course provided a general familiarity with the mechanical instrumentation, control, and protective systems of a typical boiling water reactor. This

information will enable the agency to better predict the potential for a radioactive release and enhance the state's ability to make protective action recommendations for people living and working in the area.

In addition to IEMA personnel, the training was attended by one radiological emergency planner from Will County, one individual from DOE, two from Iowa, and one from the NRC. Two IEMA resident inspector staff attended the training to supplement the training with Illinois-specific information.

Storm Ready Community: SIU Carbondale

StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness. No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

StormReady uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle all types of extreme weather—from tornadoes to winter storms. The program encourages communities to take a new, proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations by providing emergency managers with clear-cut guidelines on how to improve their hazardous weather operations. Applying is easy. To be officially StormReady, a community must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts and to alert the public
- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD)

We are pleased to announce that the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) bestowed its James W. Miller Award on Ken Evans during their annual conference in May. In recognizing Ken, the CRCPD highlighted his leadership and exceptional service to the CRCPD through his contributions to radiation protection in emergency response preparedness, and for his service to Illinois' Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program. Ken has been involved in REP programs since 1978, serving in both the Arkansas and Illinois programs, and as an employee at the Clinton Nuclear Power Station.

The CRCPD is a non-governmental national-level organization dedicated to radiation protection. IEMA's Division of Nuclear Safety is charged with protecting public health and safety and the environment by preventing unnecessary exposure to radiation, whether naturally-occurring or man-made. Therefore, many IEMA team members chair or serve on CRCPD committees and task forces. In fact, IEMA's contributions to the CRCPD have been recognized multiple times over the years. In addition to Ken Evans, previous IEMA recipients of the James W. Miller award include former Deputy Director Joe Klinger, and current employees Patrick Daniels, Gary Forsee, and Mary Ann Spohrer.



Progress Report: IEMA Radiochemistry Lab

It has been more than 30 years since the original IEMA radiochemistry laboratory was commissioned at 1301 Knotts Street in Springfield, Illinois. However, May 2019 marked the final chapter in a comprehensive infrastructure remodeling project for IEMA's primary radiochemistry work space. IEMA, working in partnership with the Capital Development Board and Crawford Murphy Tilly engineering, developed a modern laboratory environment designed to meet both current and future laboratory needs of Illinois. Expanding radiochemistry emergency preparedness capabilities is at the forefront of all modernization considerations. The incorporation of technically advanced containment and an open design concept of work spaces will result in the expansion of emergency surge capacity, personnel coordination, and reduces service interruptions due to hazard throughput. The end product increases productivity and public safety while ensuring radiochemistry infrastructure is maintained for decades in the future. Please join the Division of Nuclear Safety in appreciation of IEMA and State of Illinois leadership for their continued commitment to protect citizens of Illinois from encountering potential radiological hazards in the environment.





COMINGS & GOINGS *at IEMA*

NEW EMPLOYEES

- **Kelly Turner**, Public Service Administrator (Legislative Liaison)
- **Eric Lohrenz**, NS Chief Legal Counsel (General Counsel)
- **Ana-Jo Mounce**, Executive I, PGA
- **Heath Garner**, NS Health Physics Tech I, DNS
- **Renysa Brown**, Senior Public Service Administrator, PGA (Bureau Chief)
- **Jennifer March**, Public Service Administrator
- **Bereket Seyoum**, Public Service Administrator, Fiscal
- **Kristen Brown**, NS Health Physics Tech I, DNS
- **Nakesha Rice**, HR Specialist, Personnel and Labor Relations
- **Jeremy Charlton**, HR Specialist, Personnel and Labor Relations

RETIREMENT

- **Jack Deheve**, Office Administrator IV, OPS

SEPARATION – OTHER STATE AGENCY

- **Jenifer Johnson**, NS Chief Legal Counsel, effective COB 5/31/19
- **Rob Dixon**, Public Service Administrator, Legislative Liaison, effective COB 5/31/19
- **Li Ye**, NS Information Systems Specialist I, DoIT,

FEMA Seeks Public Comment for New Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program



FEMA

FEMA is seeking comments on the development and implementation of Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) Section 1234: National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The new program: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), is part of the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act which became law in October 2018. Communities from all levels of government and key stakeholders, including private businesses, citizens, vulnerable and at-risk populations, critical infrastructure sectors, and non-profit, academic, and philanthropic organizations are encouraged to provide comment. Comments will be accepted from May 20 through July 15, on [FEMA IdealScale](#) or by email at BUILDBRIC@fema.dhs.gov.

In June, FEMA will host a webinar series to provide an overview of the different topic areas that are important for the development of the BRIC program. This will be followed by an open conversation with stakeholders through the chat platform.

For detailed information and a description of each session, visit the [website](#).

Webinar 2: Hazard Mitigation Planning, Grant Application and Evaluation, and Risk Based Funding
2 to 4 p.m. EDT, Thursday June 13

Webinar 3: Funding & Resource Management and Benefit-Cost Analysis
2 to 4 p.m. EDT, Thursday June 20.

Webinar 4: Building Codes and Enforcement and Capacity and Capability
2 to 4 p.m. EDT, Tuesday June 25.

How to Participate:

- FEMA Teleconference: 1-800-320-4330 PIN: 338559#
- [FEMA Adobe Connect](#)

For more information on DRRA, visit the [website](#).

Call for Presentations 2019 IEMA Training Summit

Sponsor, Exhibitor Registration Also Open

The IEMA Training Summit offers many opportunities for businesses and organizations to attain visibility and interact with participants through several sponsorship levels and exhibitor booths. Each year, the summit draws approximately 1,000 participants.

To secure a sponsorship or exhibitor booth, contact Julie Pfeifer at julie.pfeifer@illinois.gov.



Family Preparedness Plans Must Include Pets

Pets are cherished family members in many Illinois homes, so it's important for pet owners to have plans to keep their pets safe during and after emergencies. Throughout National Pet Preparedness Month in June, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local emergency management agencies will provide tips and information on pet emergency preparedness.

"More than half of homes in Illinois have at least one pet," said Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "Emergency situations can be very stressful, particularly for pets who don't understand what is happening. If your family includes a dog, cat, hamster or other furry, feathered or scaly friends, don't forget to include their unique needs in your home emergency plans."

Home emergency supply kits for people should include a three-day supply of such items as food, water, first aid kit, weather alert radio, flashlights, spare batteries and other items. Pet owners should also have a pet preparedness kit stocked with items such as:

- At least a three-day supply of food and water
- Extra supplies of pet medicines
- Copies of pet registration, vaccinations and other important documents
- Photo of your pet in case you are separated during an emergency
- Collar with ID tag, harness or leash
- Crate or other pet carrier in case of evacuation
- Pet litter and box, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach for sanitation
- Toys, treats or other familiar items to reduce your pet's stress during the emergency

A disaster may require you to evacuate your home, sometimes with little notice. It's important to take pets with you, as an evacuation could last several days, even weeks, and your pets likely cannot survive without care. Plan now for places you and your pets can stay following an evacuation, as many public shelters do not allow animals inside.

It's also important to have a back-up emergency plan in case you can't care for or evacuate your animals yourself. Talk to neighbors, friends and family to make sure someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.

Additional pet preparedness and general emergency preparedness information is available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov, the Ready Illinois Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ReadyIllinois.

Don't Miss Important IEMA Information

Did you know - IEMA's website enables you to receive the latest news from IEMA as soon as it is posted. You can subscribe to the RSS feed for IEMA press releases at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/PressReleases.aspx>.

You will need a third-party RSS reader/aggregator software. There are many options to choose from ranging from web-based to mobile apps. If you are

using Microsoft Exchange, you can simply right click on the "RSS Feeds" folder and select "Add a new RSS Feed," then insert the address of the RSS feed.

Some browsers will have a "subscribe" link at the top of the page automatically. Clicking this link will add the subscription to a "Feeds" section of your browser's favorites or bookmarks.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:
<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For more information on this newsletter, contact:

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